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The petrography of the pre-Cambrian rocks is discussed, and numerous analyses of granites, syenites, gneisses, and amphibolites are given.

A. E. F.

An Excursion to the Yosemite (California), or Studies in the Formation of Alpine Cirques, "Steps," and Valley "Treads." By E. C. ANDREWS. Jour. and Proc. of the Royal Society of N. S. Wales, XLIV, 262-315; Figs. 17.

Considerable space is given to *The Psychological Factor in the History of the Glacial Controversy* in which is emphasized the necessity of interpreting glacial features by the ice floods that formed them, and not by the present dwarfed representatives of those floods. The dynamics of ice stream erosion is discussed with special emphasis on the effects of ice falls and their recession forming "steps" and "treads," and on the formation of cirques and *roches moutonnées*.

Previous to glacial times, the Merced and Tenaya rivers had a fairly even descent through the Yosemite region, with a notable constriction in the valley between El Capitan and the Cathedral rocks. Later, with the ice moving through this constriction, the velocity at this point was increased, and, likewise, the erosive power, which developed a "step" with "basined tread." The "step" and "tread," once formed, were rapidly enlarged by recession through the processes of sapping and quarrying, and in their recession left hanging valleys, now marked by water falls.

A. E. F.

Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, Annual Report of the Director. By L. A. BAUER. Year Book No. 9, pp. 195-204; Pl. 1.

In a general summary is given the work done with the "Carnegie" in correcting magnetic charts, and an outline of her present circumnavigation cruise. The field work in the various countries, the ocean work of the "Carnegie," the office work, and the shopwork accomplished during the year are stated briefly. The map (Pl. 5) accompanying the report shows the status of the magnetic work accomplished both on land and sea up to October 31, 1910, and the uncompleted portion of the present cruise of the "Carnegie."

A. E. F.